Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 WARSAW 03776 260727Z ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 H-02 ISO-00 ONY-00 /015 W

-----260939Z 050723 /10

R 260629Z MAY 77 FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8378 INFO AMCONSUL POZNAN

UNCLAS WARSAW 3776

EO 11652N/A

TAGS: CGEN, SOCI, PL (WALCZAK, ANDRZEJ)

SUBJ: ARRRST AND IMPRISONMENT OF POLISH CITIZEN

REF: STATE 107610

1. A CONSULAR OFFICER IN POZNAN SPOKE WITH AN EMPLOYEE OF THE WRONKI PRISON ON MAY 18. ACCORDING TO THE EMPLOYEE, ANDRZEJ WALCZAK WAS CHARGED WITH A VIOLATION OF CURRENCY REGULATIONS ON FEBRUARY 18. HE WAS REPORTEDLY RELEASED ON APRIL 22. THE PRISON EMPLOYEE DID NOT SAY WHETHER THE CHARGED AGAINST WALCZAK HAD BEEN DROPPED, IF HE IS AT LIBERTY UNTIL THE DATE OF HIS TRIAL, OF IF HE HAD BEEN CONVICTED, FINED, AND SET FREE. IF WALCZAK IS INDEED OUT OF JAIL, THE JOHNSONS AND PIASECKIS SHOULD BE ABLE TO GET IN TOUCH WITH HIM DIRECTLY.

2. AT THE AMBASSADOR'S REQUEST, THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AGREE D

ON MAY 21 TO MAKE INFORMAL INQUIRIES AND TELL US WHAT WALCZAK'S LEGAL STATUS IS. ON MAY 23, AN OFFICIAL OF THE MINISTRY'S CONSULAR DEPARTMENT CONFIRMED THAT HE HAD BEEN INSTRUCTED TO LOOK INTO THE MATTER. HE DID NOT SAY WHEN A REPORT COULD BE EXPECTED AND ADDED THAT SINCE IT CONCERNED A POLISH CITIZEN, THE CASE WOULD BE HANDLED AS A PRIVATE COURTESY FOR THE AMBASSADOR AND THE JOHNSONS.

3. WE UNDERSTAND THAT POLISH LAW GENERALLY PROHIBITS NOT ONLY THE POSSESSION OF FOREIGN BANK ACCOUNTS BY POLISH CITIZENS RESIDING IN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 WARSAW 03776 260727Z

POLAND, BUT ALSO OF POWERS OF ATTORNEY OR SIMILAR INSTRUMENTS GRANTING THEM CONTROL OVER THE FOREIGN ACCOUNTS OF OTHER PERSONS.

4. WE DO NOT BELIEVE THE GOP WOULD GIVE A WRITTEN ASSURANCE TO GRZEGORZ PIASECKI THAT HE AND HIS FAMILY COULD RETURN TO POLAND WITHOUT RISK. THE JOHNSONS SHOULD INQUIRE AT THE POLISH CONSULATE GENERAL IN NEW YORK IF THEY WISH TO PURSUE THIS. A POLISH ATTORNEY

MIGHT BE WILLING TO INVESTIGATE ANY CHARGES PENDING AGAINST MR. PIASECKI, IF WALCZAK DOES NOT PROVIDE ENOUGH INFORMATION. ANY ATTORNEY SHOULD BE INSTRUCTED TO GET IN TOUCH WITH THE PROKURATURA REJONOWA (PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE) IN KALISZ, WOJ. KALISZ, POLAND, WHERE CASE FILE DF 6-77 (WALCZAK'S) RELATES. SENATOR CLIFFORD CASE INTERESTED. DAVIES

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